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Increase of Assets over 1887.....	" 2,221,670
Surplus.....	" 4,315,599
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 30th, 1889.

The news of the sudden death of Her Majesty D. Theresia Christina, the recently exiled Empress of Brazil, which took place in Oporto, Portugal, at 2 p. m. on the 28th instant, has fallen upon us like the hand of fate, coming as it does so soon after the expulsion of the imperial family from the country barely six weeks ago. Under other circumstances no death would have moved the Brazilian heart more deeply, nor excited more widespread and sympathetic expressions of grief, for she was deeply respected and tenderly loved in this her adopted home. During the forty-six years which she had spent in Brazil, her womanly gentleness, her unflinching sympathy, her virtuous devotion to her family and her people, have all been widely known and appreciated, and had she died in her own home and among her old friends the world would have rung with the lamentations of a whole nation. The times, however, have changed, the mania of a sentimental revolution has swept over the land, and the virtues of this truly noble and loving woman have been swallowed up in the swelling tide of a new era. A few brief telegrams on the evening of the 28th, and one on the following day to one local journal, barely reciting the sudden termination of a good and useful life—and that is all! No minute guns have been fired, no flags have been draped, a few brief notices in the public press with hardly a line of black—and the story is told! This is neither the time nor place to discuss unworthy acts and motives, but it will be permitted us to express our profound regrets that the virtues of this noble woman, this faithful wife, mother and Empress, have not been honored as they deserve. Whatever the faults of the system just ended, they were not due to her. Within her sphere, she has done her whole duty. She sympathized with the sorrows and misfortunes of her people, she relieved their wants, she encouraged every worthy aspiration, and she made her life a beautiful example of gentle, unassuming dignity and domestic virtue. More than this she could not have done. It is fitting, therefore, — nay more, it is an obligation—that we should render all due homage to the memory of one so truly deserving of all honor and affectionate remembrance. It is painful to record that the daughter of Francis I, of the Two Sicilies* and Empress of Brazil, should have died in exile and in a hotel, and that her death should have aroused so slight an

expression of sympathy, but we are confident that many a heart here is secretly grieving over the sad termination of her life, and also that history will do her full justice.

On the 26th instant the minister advised the banks which have obtained the privilege of issuing notes under the new banks-of-issue law, that they must conform to the conditions of the law and begin issuing notes to bearer within a period of three months, under a penalty of having their concessions declared lapsed. This order must be considered a *coup de grâce* to a law which, well-devised at the outset, became so absurdly complicated and constructed at the end as to make its success almost an impossibility. The diversion of a simple and reasonable system, based on the domestic credit of the nation and largely exempt from the fluctuations of the money market, to the uncertain basis of issuing three in paper against one in gold on deposit and subject to foreign credit and the daily fluctuations of the exchange market, was a serious mistake and could never have produced good results until the balance of payments and established credit of the state all tended to either suspend exchange fluctuations or diminish them to a minimum. Under the stimulus of an exceptionally high rate of exchange, which produced the absurd situation of having a non-convertible paper currency worth more than gold, and the dazzling inducement of being able to issue three in paper against one in gold on deposit, a large number of banking institutions rushed in and clamored for the privilege. A controversy then arose in the press over the question of limiting the issue to one bank, and the present minister of finance, then editor of the *Diário de Notícias*, took the only logical, as well as legal, ground that a plurality of note-issuing banks would be best for the country. As minister he has continued to maintain that position, and now, when the banks which were not long since so eager to secure the privilege, are holding back because of the decline in exchange, he very properly holds them to the terms of the contract and calls upon them to fulfill their obligations. In this the minister is evidently following the maxim of Gen. Grant that the best way to secure the repeal of a bad law is to rigorously enforce it. If this enforcement of the contracts for issuing notes against coin, only to have them presented for redemption every time exchange falls a little below par, will have the result of securing its repeal, or modification, then the order must be considered as wise in the highest degree. It must now be apparent to the advocates of this absurd system of gold reserve banks that our plan of bond deposits against issues was after all the best one for the situation. Had the Banco Nacional issued notes against a deposit of bonds, its cashiers would not now be called upon to pass out gold all day, at a loss, in the redemption of its notes. One great evil of the system is its intimate relation with the questions of international exchange, questions continually affected by loans, sales of valuable property to foreigners, political changes, diminished crops and mercantile transactions. The value of a national currency ought to be comparatively free from such questions. And were the banks issuing under such a system, they would now be spared the violent and often mistaken, censures of a press which one day cries out for one thing, only to change for the very opposite on the next. Now that the pet project of Afonso Celso seems to be collapsing before a practical trial of three months is completed, we trust that the minister will encourage the adoption of the American system of

* D. Theresia Christina Maria was the daughter of Francis I, king of the Two Sicilies, and was born March 14th, 1822. She was married to D. Pedro II by proxy on May 30th, 1843, and in person on September 4th of the same year.

issuing notes against the deposit of government bonds. This will afford opportunity for a domestic loan and will provide ample currency for all the needs of industry and commerce. We can not fully recommend the law as it was left by the late government, but with a radical change in the minimum capital of the banks, and better provisions for securing elasticity in the currency, it will do very well for a beginning. It must be evident that the gold deposit banks are not a success; now let us see what the other plan can do.

THERE is an old maxim which has come to have a very general application in politics—"a new broom sweeps clean." So radical a change as that of the 15th ult. ought to have brought about the fullest application possible of this idea, but we regret to note that this has not been the case. The same old abuses and annoyances which have grown up under a half century of paternal government, still exist in the public departments and still obstruct the dispatch of business. Within the last six weeks we have heard of irregularities and abuses in these departments—principally in that of agriculture—which would have discredited even the most corrupt of monarchical ministries. We do not know what Comte has to say about it, but we would advise the minister of agriculture that no republic can live where corruption dominates the public departments so openly and triumphantly as is the case in the one under his immediate control. The disappearance of contracts and petitions, abstracted by employes bribed by outside speculators and intrigues, the imposition of illegal and unjust conditions merely to embarrass enterprises or extort blackmail, the delays in dispatching business for the same purpose, and the creation of innumerable obstructions for the purpose of strengthening the position of these corrupt officials, are all matters of common experience and knowledge. Under the old regime it was difficult for a minister to break up these corrupt practices because of the protection enjoyed by these men, but now that all these political relationships are broken it ought to be easy to make a sweeping reform. The needs of the country, and the reputation of the government itself, imperatively demand that every one of these untrustworthy and venal officials shall be turned incontinently into the street. The minister is young and, we doubt not, sincerely wishes to establish an honest, responsible administration, but since his assumption of office things have been going on in exactly the old style and with abuses fully as scandalous as any which preceded him. If he wishes to correct this, he must curtail the power of his subordinates, make himself more accessible to the public, and simplify the methods of dispatching business. He must, also, close the doors of his department to the *advogado administrativo*, the man who extorts fees from the public for his influence in the department and for securing the dispatch or obstruction of papers irrespective of their real merit. It is a burning disgrace to a department where a man is able to guarantee the dispatch of a certain paper for a fee of 5,000\$ (sheer blackmail!), and then, when it is refused, prevail upon the employes of that department to suppress the business altogether. If such a man can secure the closing of a business for such a sum, it means nothing less than a division of the spoils and the protection of the knave by the officials themselves. If the republic is to succeed and thrive, these abuses must be suppressed, and we call upon the men now in charge of the destinies of the new government to take the first step by turning the scoundrels out.

As an illustration of one of the practices complained of, we may cite the case of one of the most respectable and powerful companies in existence, the Equitable company of New York. As we go to press we learn that the decree was signed on Saturday last approving the amended statutes of this company, which may be accepted as the termination of a long and wholly unnecessary delay in closing the purely official routine business of authorizing the company to open offices in this country. It may be said that all the necessary petitions and other documents were duly filed, but they were apparently permitted to pass unnoticed. No one for a moment could question the standing of the company, and it is therefore matter for profound surprise that the minister of agriculture could have entertained one single doubt as to its methods of doing business or as to its financial standing. It is a very difficult matter to successfully meet an intrigue where the employes of a department are not strictly trustworthy, and for this reason the best intentioned minister may be led into the commission of an injustice unwittingly. In this case we believe there is sufficient evidence of undue influence to delay and divert the action now taken, to warrant a thorough investigation, and we trust that the minister will order this done when all the facts are placed before him. Not only is this due to the company which has suffered so many delays and annoyances, but it is a duty which the minister owes to himself and to the department over which he presides. If there has been any undue influence employed, if any false and unfounded statements have been made against this company, then let us know who is responsible so that proper steps may be taken to obtain justice. Neither the manager, who is compelled to bear the brunt of meeting and disproving such charges, nor the company, ought to be held responsible for statements made secretly and maliciously, but the facts are that they have been so held and have been made to suffer prejudices which are wholly undeserved. A company which is subjected to rigorous official inspection at home and is treated with all confidence in every civilized country of the world, is certainly entitled to confidence and just treatment in Brazil, and we trust that the minister of agriculture will see that this is fully, even if tardily, rendered.

MARTIAL LAW.

Marshal Manoel Deodoro da Fonseca, chief of the provisional government, constituted by the army and navy, in the name of the people, considering:

"That the entire nation, through all its organs of expression in all the social levels, has frankly adhered to the work of the revolution of November 15th;

"That this general embodiment of all opinions in the republican system, creates for the provisional government new duties, constituting it the depositary of this situation, and obliging it as such to defend it with the utmost energy against all threats, until it is delivered intact into the hands of the assembly called to vote the future constitution of the United States of Brazil;

"That, there being marked a very short time up to the reunion of the constituent assembly, there having been already decreed all those liberal reforms the achievement of which provoked the revolution, and in course of rapid elaboration the others, the provisional government has, on its side, given all possible proofs of fidelity to its commitments towards the country, which does not cease to retribuite it by demonstrations of the most solid confidence;

"That, under such circumstances, the greatest of all duties imposed upon the government is absolute firmness and the most inexorable severity in measures tending to preserve the peace and the maintenance of interests founded upon the safety of property;

"That, all possibilities of the reconstruction of the former state of affairs being eliminated, and there remaining for us the alternative of the republic or of anarchy only, any attempt against the

solidity of the present situation will be merely an act of disorder, aimed at experiments upon terror;

"That it would be, on the part of the government, imbecility, cowardice and treason to leave the credit of the republic at the mercy of the ignoble sentiments of social insects interested in sowing discord and corruption in the mind of the Brazilian soldier, ever generous, disinterested, disciplined and liberal;

"That the perversity of such speculations is immeasurable, save by the horror of the incalculable misfortunes, necessarily connected with the triumph of disorder;

Decrees:

Art. 1.—Those persons who shall conspire against the republic and its government;

Who shall advise or promote verbally, by writing, or by acts, civil revolt or military indiscipline; Who shall attempt bribery or corruption of soldiers or officers against their duties to their superiors or to the republican system;

Who shall spread in the ranks of the army and navy false and subversive ideas tending to prejudice them against the republic;

Who shall employ intoxication to subvert the minds of the soldiers;

Will be tried by military process by a military commission, nominated by the minister of war, and punished by the military penalties for sedition.

Art. 2.—Dispositions to the contrary are revoked.

Assembly-room of the Provisional Government of the Republic of the United States of Brazil, December 23rd, 1889, first of the republic.

Marshal Manoel Deodoro da Fonseca, Chief of the provisional government, and all the members of the cabinet.

BANKS OF ISSUE.

The *Diario Official* of the 29th publishes the following decree:

Marshal Manoel Deodoro da Fonseca, chief of the provisional government, constituted by the army and navy, in the name of the nation,

Considering that it is of the greatest necessity to the public finances and for commercial transactions to establish the maximum of the issue of notes or paper money in charge of banks organized under the conditions of Decree No. 10,262 of July 6th last, and to prevent the lock-up of metallic reserves in such establishments in guarantee of projected, but not realized, issues; decrees:

Art. 1.—The period, within which banking establishments or companies may avail of the concession which may be or has been granted them to issue notes, is limited to three months; such companies as shall not issue within this time an equivalent value to that of their deposits will lose this privilege.

Art. 2.—Contrary dispositions are revoked.

Assembly-Room of the Provisional Government of the United States of Brazil, December 27th, 1889, 1st of the republic.

Marshal Manoel Deodoro da Fonseca, Rui Barbosa.

REVOLUTIONARY ITEMS.

—Capt. Rodolpho Gustavo da Paixão has been appointed governor of the state of Mato Grosso.

—Maranhão appears inclined to be progressive. The governor recently declared the separation of church and state and has been suspended for it.

—The Portuguese reporters are unanimous in declaring that the favorite book of the Emperor and Princess Imperial on board the *Alagoas* was the "Life of St. Vincent de Paul."

—The municipal council of Pará was formally dissolved on the 5th inst. and a board of 5 persons nominated to take charge of municipal affairs until a definite organization of the state.

—O *Pais* on the 28th hears that the Brazilian company has sent in a bill against the government for 160,000\$ for transporting the ex-Imperial family to Lisbon, by its steamer *Alagoas*.

—Ex-Senator Gaspar Silveira Martins, exiled by the provisional government, left for Europe by the Ger. str. *Lisabon* on the 22nd. He was escorted to Bahia by a police force under command of a captain.

—The government has purchased for 630,000\$ the residence of the Marquessa de Itamaraty, on the Rua Larga de S. Joaquin, with all the furniture and an adjoining building, to serve as the official residence of the Chief of State.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* on the 26th mentions the report that the com-martial formal to try the commandant of the 2nd artillery, will be a permanent commission, before which crimes under the conspiracy and sedition decree will be carried.

—On the 22nd, in the columns of this *Tribuna Liberal*, ex-Senator Lima Duarte, as a native of Minas Geraes, contradicts that clause in Sr. Rui Barbosa's telegram to Lisbon which says "that the candidature of Oure Preto and his son was received with contempt."

—On the 24th Barão de Drummond was invited to headquarters, but when confronted by a soldier of the 2nd artillery, the latter is said to have declared that the baron did not resemble a tall, closely shaved man who induced his comrades to mutiny on the 18th inst.

—It appears that the port admiral at Plymouth did not request the captain of the Brazilian corvette *Guanabara* not to hoist the republican ensign. He merely asked that no salute be fired, as it could not be returned, pending the recognition of the republic by the British government.

—According to the *Diario Official* of the 23rd the government cited the Brazilian representative in Lisbon to obtain a personal reply from the Emperor as to the 5,000,000\$ payment. The answer was: "Ex-Emperor refuses submissively 5,000,000\$, accepts civil list which by law falls to him and to his family."

—Sr. Miguel de Lemos, leader of the Positivists in Rio, published a protest on the 26th against the construction of the conspiracy decree as a means of restricting public opinion. That overt acts of military or civil conspiracy should be punished, he agrees to; but not to any shackling of private opinion.

—Sr. Candido de Carvalho, an ex-municipal councillor and somewhat prominent politician in former days, was confronted with a soldier of the 2nd artillery on the 27th, but the latter could not identify him as the man who had bribed the soldiers to mutiny on the 18th, although he considered there was a resemblance.

—On the 17th the minister of finance sent a telegram to the Brazilian representative in Paris contradicting such errors as that the revolution was contrary to abolition, that a military dictatorship was aimed at, etc., which have appeared in the European press. The minister of finance seems to be encroaching on the prerogatives of the foreign department.

—O *Pais* on the 23rd says that the late commander of the 2nd artillery, now under arrest, wrote his wife on the 21st to send certain papers in his desk to a certain merchant. The authorities opened the letter and searched the desk, finding one document that they retained. A police delegate has also been examining the mails for correspondence relative to the mutiny of the 2nd artillery.

—An ex-deputy, now a judge of the Supreme Court, addressed a circular in the electoral body of Ceará, a copy of which fell into unfriendly hands. Sr. Araripe referred to acts of his ancestors in the revolutions of 1817 and 1824; Sr. J. Brígido calls his attention to the fact that these historical matters were carefully hidden by Sr. Araripe in the time of the empire, and administers further public chastisement to his opponent.

—Sr. Argollo Ferrão, editor of *Le Brésil*, published in Paris, stated on the 24th November that his platform was as follows: We will sacrifice our municipal principles upon the altar of the country and we will conform to the prayers of the Emperor made upon quitting Brazil: "I bow to an accomplished fact and I offer prayers for the welfare of the country." Sr. Ferrão's allusion, or sacrifice, however, depends upon the country accepting the republic.

—A Lisbon paper in describing the departure of the imperial family says that Barão de Corumbá, adjutant general of the navy, a dedicated friend of his sovereign, climbed a tree at the moment of departure to see for the first time the physiognomy of his friend and sovereign. We in Rio heard nothing about the tree-climbing proclivities of this baron, the dedicated friend of the Emperor, but we did see, a very short time after the monarch's departure, Barão de Corumbá's appointment to a high naval position.

—It is a pleasure to know through a telegram from the minister of finance to the Brazilian minister in Paris that all the members of the provisional government and the army and navy were always abolitionists and took leading parts in the movement for emancipation. We must confess that the statement surprises us beyond all measure, for there are only two or three men in the government who got beyond a lukewarm adhesion to the movement until after abolition was decreed. And as for the army and navy—will some one tell us what it really did?

—Visconde de Nogueira da Gama, representative of the Emperor, publishes in the press the following letter, which was received by him at Petropolis on the 26th: "Having had notice, at the moment of departure for Europe, of the decree by which is conceded to the Imperial Family on one only occasion the sum of 5,000,000\$, I order that you declare that I, together with my family, will receive only the civil lists and other advantages in which we are entitled by existing laws, treaties and compromises, and, therefore, if by chance you shall have received that amount you must return it without loss of time. I further recommend that restricting yourself entirely to the terms of this communication, you address a dispatch, which you will have published immediately and of which you will remit me a copy.—D. Pedro de Alcantara, On board the *Alagoas*, off St. Vincent, Cape de Verd Islands, November 29th, 1889."

—Gen. Daudado was moved from Santa Theresia to the new official residence on 29th. He stood the journey well and is said to be improving in health.

—The *Tribuna Liberal* suspended its publication on Christmas day. The editors declare that until the recent decree they can not continue their mission as opponents of the government unrestrictedly, hence the suspension.

—It has been decided by the committee having in charge a proposed celebration on January 1st, to defer any such manifestation until after the celebration of the anniversary of the declaration of the republic on November 15th next.

—The provisional government has provided that in case of any disability in the present chief, the functions of "chief of state" will be exercised, 1st, by Dr. Ray Barbosa, minister of finance, and, 2nd, by Lt. Col. Benjamin Constant, minister of war.

—The popular elected governor of Rio Grande do Norte, he who appointed his secretary for foreign affairs, commanders of the army and navy, etc., is reported to have dismissed some 300 public employees before the central government had time to stop him.

—According to telegrams published in the *Gazeta de Noticias* on the 29th the action of the government in telegraphing the commandant of the garrison at Maranhão that the governor's decree separating church and state had been annulled, was not over well received.

—A report is mentioned that the chief of the provisional government will be furnished with two vice-chiefs—one military, the other civilian—who will be members of the cabinet. It is also reported that vice-governors will be appointed to the various states in service in case of need.

—On the 28th the police subdelegate of the Engenheiro Nono district in the suburbs notified headquarters that some 50 deserters from the 2nd artillery were concealed in the woods. The police notified the military and a force of cavalry and infantry was sent to arrest them. No deserters, however, were found.

O País, December 27th.

SLIDING TARIFF.

Under Law No. 3,396 of November 24th of last year and decree of January 26th of this year the collection was ordered, at the custom-houses, beyond the duties marked in the general tariff, of an additional percentage on the duties on certain articles of domestic production and proportionate to the variations in rates of exchange, or of the value of the paper money.

As exchange was maintained during recent months at 27 1/2 d per 1000 paper, and above this rate the goods included in that sliding tariff were subject to an additional tax or percentage of 20 per cent.

At present, however, through the ruinous liquidation of risky speculations fostered by the Ouro Preto cabinet in our market, exchange has declined to 24 3/4 d. and there is, therefore, no reason for continuing to collect the tax of 20 per cent. additional at the custom-house. At the present exchange and under the said decree of January the additional tax should not exceed 6 per cent. . . .

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The parish church at Casa Branca, São Paulo, was destroyed by fire a few days since. The losses are estimated at 300,000\$.

—A phenomenon is reported from Minas Geraes. It is a boy 6 years old, who has already passed his preparatory in five studies.

—The people along the Rio S. Francisco and Rio das Velhas are complaining of famine and desire government assistance.

—That the republic means progress is undeniable. The proprietor of a hotel at Uberaba, Minas Geraes, has introduced electric bells there.

—The November exports from Pará comprised 1,155,057 kilos of rubber valued at 2,106,872\$511, and 507,175 kilos of cacao valued at 192,025\$231.

—The corner stone of a new building for a Merchants' exchange was laid at Belém, Pará, on the 25th inst. in the presence of the governor of the state, and other authorities.

—The minister of finance has authorized the São Paulo Treasury agency to have two watchmen built at Santos to meet the necessity for more room at the custom-house there.

—The governor of Rio Grande do Norte is credited with the intention of improving the entrance to Natal, to furnish free navigation for large vessels up to that city.

—The last president of Pará, who served 50 hours, appears to have become a republican. In a communication to a Pernambuco journal he lays the blame of his conversion upon the Emperor.

—Telegrams dated Rio Grande do Sul on the 25th state that some small herds of cattle had appeared at Pelotas, and slaughtering had commenced; but only on a small scale so far.

—Recent advices from Ceará are favorable for the coming season. Rains had appeared at various points in the state, and the weatherwise report that rains in December forecast a good season.

—On the beach near Rio Grande do Sul there was found on the 15th a glass door covered with shell fish which has been identified as belonging to the str. *Rio Apa*, lost at sea with all hands on July 11th, 1887.

—The state of Rio de Janeiro is to pay the Misericórdia hospital 15,000\$ per annum for the board and lodging of 50 lunatics, formerly confined in an annex of the S. João Baptista hospital, and will close the annex.

—The inhabitants of Theresina, heretofore the capital of Piahy, are much exercised over an intention attributed to the governor to move the capital to Parahyba, and have telegraphed for the intervention of the central government.

—The commandant of the police of the state of Rio de Janeiro learning that the door-keeper of his department was accustomed to give bad advice to soldiers of the corps, had the delinquent up before a parade of the force and publicly reprimanded him, promising more energetic steps on a recurrence of the offence.

—The action of the governor in providing for the improvement of the mouth of the Rio Parahyba is creating great satisfaction through the Campos sugar district. If small coasters could enter the Parahyba and run up to Campos for cargoes of sugar, a considerable reduction in the costs of transportation ought to follow.

—Sacramento city, Minas Geraes, was not satisfied with one republican club, but upon attempting to form another the organizers fell out. The secretary took refuge under the table and the members brought it out in the street, four being stabbed. A local paper announces that anarchy was imminent, the district judge and the editor of the journal being threatened with exile.

—The authorities of Uberaba, Minas Geraes, are just a little too premature. They have already included in the list of citizens liable to service on the jury, all foreigners naturalized under the recent law who had not registered their intention not to accept. As the period for declaration expires only in June next, the Uberaba people are showing undue anxiety to welcome the foreigners to the jury box.

—The Juaperys Indians in the state of Amazonas recently attacked some settlements near Mirapirema and killed and wounded several persons. One account says they attacked a canoe in which the bodies of their first victims were being carried to burial, but were beaten off by the crew of the canoe who were fortunately well armed. The authorities should send a few missionaries to these specimens of Lo.

—On the 12th there was a fight between a police detachment on duty under an ensign and four soldiers of the 5th cavalry regiment at Bagé, Rio Grande do Sul, in which a police corporal was killed. The soldiers were caught endeavoring to break into the grounds of a man to steal cattle, but fled and met the police detachment, when one, a corporal, resisted arrest and killed the police corporal. The murderer was captured with two of his companions, the third escaping. All of the prisoners were mounted on stolen horses. This account is from a local journal.

—The governor of Rio de Janeiro has contracted with Engineer Antonio Maria de Oliveira Bulhões for the drainage of the swamps around the bay of Rio de Janeiro, together with those on the River Gramão and its branches. There is an onus to the state, but the following honors are granted the contractor: privilege for 80 years for navigation lines established, right of condemning lands, houses, etc., as in the case of railways, owners of reclaimed land to pay 1/2 real per 3 square metres per semester with successive reductions after 15 years, the state to collect the tax, etc.

Gazeta de Noticias, December 23rd.

STATE OF RIO GRANDE DO NORTE.

The journals which arrived yesterday from this state bring the following news:

—On the 17th of last month, at the palace of the presidency, where various citizens had met in accordance with the republican movement in the country, represented by the provisional government established in Rio de Janeiro, they resolved to proclaim the republic of the United States of Brazil in this province, to-day the state of Rio Grande do Norte.

—Lieut. Commander Leocadio Rosa nominated president of this state Dr. Pedro Vellu de Allianquerque Maranhão, who was unanimously accepted amidst general applause. The acclaimed governor then assumed the administration of the new state, nominating an executive council composed of the following citizens: Dr. Mureim Brandão, foreign affairs; José Benedito de Melloires, interior; Dr. Francisco Amynthas da C. B. (sic), justice; Capt. Philippe Bezerra, war; Luiz Emílio Pinheiro da Camara, finance; Captain of the Port Leocadio Rosa, navy; João Avelino Pereira de Vasconcellos, agriculture, commerce and public works.

RAILROAD NOTES.

—The November receipts of the Macabé and Campos railway were 136,307\$019; expenses are not given.

—O País on the 24th hears that the question of indemnity to the concessionaires of the proposed D. Pedro I railway will be shortly settled.

—On the 23rd inst. the minister of agriculture advised the Treasury that the S. Paulo railway company had relinquished the interest guarantee of the state.

—The Minas and Rio railway has been authorized to build a store at the Sotolade station, the cost not to exceed 1,200\$, which will be charged to working expenses.

—The plans of reconstructions on the D. Theresia Christiana railway have been approved by the government and the cost allowed to be charged to working expenses.

—The first shipments of Krupp rails from the celebrated Essen Works for the Squemely line arrived here a few days since on the German steamers *Citra* and *Holstein*.

—The concessionaires of the projected railway from Taubaté to Ubatuba, S. Paulo, have been granted an extension of time to organize a company, but the period is not given.

—The minister of agriculture has decided to use the unoccupied space where the old slaughter-house stood, near the Mangue canal, in this city, for deposits of material belonging to the Central of Brazil railway.

—The minister of agriculture has decided to divide the administration of the Central (ex-D. Pedro II) railway. The line under traffic will have its head and staff, and that under construction a separate chief with his assistants. This certainly does not mean economy.

—The governor of Rio de Janeiro has ordered the payment of 75,000\$ to the representative of Manuel Gomes de Oliveira, which the authorities confiscated in 1883 as being forfeited by Sr. Oliveira in failing to complete his contract for the purchase of the Catagallo railway. The decision is based on equity.

WEST COAST ITEMS.

—The Peruvian government has abolished the three per cent export duty on national specie.

—The contract with the Peruvian bondholders has been definitely approved. Among other conditions, the bondholders oblige themselves to build a narrow-gauge railway from Cerro de Pasco to navigable water in the Rio Marañon. The bondholders are to have the railways and grano works for a period of 60 years.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—There were 36,484 immigrant arrivals at Buenos Aires in November.

—The November receipts of the Buenos Aires custom house amounted to \$3,557,613.

—The Buenos Aires Standard claims that the Argentine Republic will have half a million tons of wheat for export from the new crop.

—A project has been presented to the Santa Fé government, Argentine Republic, for a new port at Colastiver, Santa Fé, at a cost of \$9,676,025 gold.

—In Montevideo there were 650 births (of which 60 were illegitimate), 115 marriages and 431 deaths during the month of October. Among the deaths were 5 suicides, 6 from accidental causes, and 31 still-births.

—If Brazil succeeds in obtaining a genuine republican government without blushing it may encourage Argentines to hope for one without disorder or violence, in the ripeness of time.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

COFFEE NOTES.

—The exports of coffee from Victoria, Espírito Santo, direct to foreign ports in November, amounted to 4,000 bags, of which 2,500 bags to Austria and 1,500 to the United States.

—That Réunion seed, which is to supplant coffee, according to some of the French press, has been examined by an English analyst who has reported to the Pharmaceutical Society that it is not a dangerous competitor for the real bean. The new article is called "Missocaula" coffee, and Professor Dunsin says that the seeds resemble rice, telling the French that it could be used in place of coffee said that it contained caffeine to the extent of 0.3 to 0.5 per cent. The few authorities took up the matter and requested the professor to examine the seeds chemically, but previously it plant of the rufescent family as was claimed. A Réunion gentleman, Mr. St. John, had made in not abundant, yields but few seeds and that these analysis shows that the seeds contain no alkaloid whatever, but do contain some fat, resembling that of muscovada and a little sugar. Réunion seed coffee need not, therefore, alarm Brazilian real coffee planters.

LOCAL NOTES.

—Can anyone explain why we now have so little news from Rio Grande do Sul?

—Sr. Gomes de Oliveira is "waltzing" around the interior, holding public meetings to explain the advantage of his "burgos agrícolas."

—Conde de Figueiredo, president of the Banco Nacional do Brasil, was a passenger per Pacific Mail str. *Osatara* on the 25th inst.

—A decree dated on the 19th appointed Barão de Itajubá, at present minister in Rome, to the Brazilian legation in Paris, vice Barão de Penedo dismissed.

—A citizen, who from his name is a relative to the chief of state, has been appointed to a position in the municipal employ, vice another citizen, dismissed.

—On the 21st the medical graduates of the school here received their degrees. They number 49, of which one was the lady *medico* already referred to.

—The police have been very active recently in hunting up and confiscating arms. So far fowling pieces and revolvers are the most dangerous weapons found.

—Some of the recent Incubations of the newer republicans remind one of the protest of the Three Tailors of Cooley Street in the name of the people of England.

—On the 20th, many days after closing the official inventory, a trunk containing jewelry belonging to the Emperor was discovered at the old city palace.

—Diseases are curious things. A man was sent to the Misericórdia recently, suffering from a gunshot wound which broke his left leg, and he died in the hospital of cerebral anemia.

—No. 45,400 drew the 2,500,000 *peretas* in the grand Spanish lottery. It was not held in this office, consequently our subscribers will be called on next month as usual.

—The municipal commission has appointed a committee of three to examine the books and vouchers of the ex-municipal chamber from January 7th, 1887, to December 12th, 1889.

—What a chance the Associação Commercial lost in having their building uncompleted when the bank delirium struck Rio! There would have been excellent accommodations for such institutions in the new edifice.

—A regular epidemic has struck the various government laborers—other than public employes—for increased pay. The same complaint is made by all; that they can barely live on the pay. But how did they manage so long?

—The new building at the corner of Ruas Primeiro de Março and Hospício, which looks more like a shop than a bank, has been bought by the Banco Constructor for 350,000\$. The bank and the Bahia and Minas railway company will occupy the building.

—We regret to see that the plague of beggars continues to afflict Rio. Every Saturday swarms of them are on the streets, many disgustingly deformed by disease. The police would be doing good service in ridding the city of the far from edifying spectacle.

—Why does not the chief of police keep a priest on duty—as he does a doctor—to marry off-hand the innumerable couples that are running away every day? The Romeos might be made to pay the expense and valuable time saved in legalizing an irregularity.

—A registered letter for a town in the interior was known by the authorities to have been stolen in Santos, for the agent and his assistant there were dismissed for this fact; but instead of promptly paying the owner his money, he is notified to petition for it to the authorities!

—One of the two soldiers—the other has since died—who "ran-a-muck" in February, 1888, wounding several persons and killing an innocent old black, pleaded drunkenness to the jury on the 24th. He was condemned to 9 years in the galleys and to pay 12 1/2 per cent. on the value of the object stolen (the knife with which the crimes were committed, valued at 3\$400). This is perfectly ridiculous, and the sooner the jury follows the municipal chamber, the better it will be for justice.

—An anonymous correspondent of the *Paiz* proposes to the government the following measures: extinction of vagabond dogs; tax on dogs; immediate arrest (eight days in jail and 10\$ fine) for using indecent language in public; arrest for sky-larking (trials of strength, boxing, etc., even in fun); prohibition of groups of more than three individuals in the streets after 8 o'clock p. m., unless in movement. All good measures; but we suggest extending the prohibition of groups to loungers in the Rua do Ouvidor at all hours of the day or night, and to insulting remarks to and about ladies passing along the street.

Market firm : Good Average	68 1/2
Steamers loading for United States.....	—

